

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 1 and 33 as follows:

E 1  
1. (twice amended) A blast resistant container comprising at least three bands of a material, a first inner band being nested within a second band which is nested within a third band, said bands being oriented relative to one another to substantially enclose a volume and to form a container wall having a thickness substantially equivalent to the sum of the thicknesses of at least two of the bands, the outermost band being substantially seamless and blast resistant, wherein each edge of the container is covered by at least one of said bands.

E 2  
33. (twice amended) A blast resistant container comprising three tubular bands of a composite material, each of said bands being substantially rectangular in cross-section, a first rigid inner band being nested in a second band which is nested in a substantially seamless blast resistant third band so as to form a rectangular prism having six faces each of which has a thickness substantially equivalent to the sum of the thicknesses of at least two of the bands, each edge of the container being covered by at least one of said bands.